The humble PETITION AND REPRESENTATION OF The Gentry, Miniſters, and others of the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Weſtmerland*, to His Sacred MAJESTIE:

With His MAJESTIES Anſwer thereunto.

York 5. *July.* 1642.

LONDON:
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1642.

To the KINGS most Excellent MAJESTIE.

The humble Petition and Representation of the Loyall and Dutifull affections of the Gentrie, Ministerie, and others Your Majesties Subjects of the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Westmerland*, whose names are hereunto annexed.

Most Gracious Soveraign,

WE acknowledge, with all possible Retribution of gratitude, Your Majesties Princely favour in yeelding your Royall Assent to such Bills as have passed since the beginning of this present Parliament; As for your Gracious Declaration to continue the same as occasion required, for remedying the evills and perils incident to Church and State, and for your firm Resolution that the Lawes of the Land should be the Rule of Your Government; But more particularly endeared to our memories is that Royall sense Your Maiestie expressed of our dangerous condition and impen-

dent fears, when we ſtood ingaged as part of the Pledge to the Scotiſh Army; and Your perſonall recommendation thereof to the ſpeedie conſideration of both Your Houſes of Parliament. The former benefits we hold as the fruit of Your generall care, equally extending to all; by this You ſuffered Your Royall Nature to be tendered with a Compaſſion more neerly regarding us; for which Grace we conceive our ſelves tyed in a more ſingular and ſtrait Obligation then the moſt of Your other Subjects are, in which reſpect our juſt fears might have preſented us too remiſſe in performance of this dutie, after ſo many had gone before us, but that our paucity, and the inconſiderableneſſe of theſe Counties for quantity and quality, with-held us thus long, untill the too viſible diſtempers of the times juſtled out ſuch fears, as now unſeaſonable: Our own ſenſe is our aſſurance of Your Gracious Government, we ſee and acquieſce in this truth, that Your Majeſties profeſſion of the true Proteſtant Religion, & the exerciſe of it go together; nor can we take up any more effectuall ground for a belief of ſincerity. All our happineſſe, and that of all Your Dominions would be compleat, and what were wanting we were in the way for, if a right Underſtanding were renewed between Your Majeſtie and great Councell.

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It is therefore our humble desire, That Your Majestie would still be pleased in Your Wisdom to recollect, and in Your Goodnesse to imbrace all good means that may tend to this happy union, whereby We may reap the true enjoyment of the long labours of Your Majestie and great Councell, for the effecting whereof we shall redouble our Petition, that some place may be thought on, which may be free from exception both of danger and distrust; and then we doubt not, but by Gods Almightie power such wayes and means might happily be propounded, as may reconcile all differences and mistakings, and Your Majestie have full satisfaction in Your Demands.

And we (as we are bound) shall be ready, according to our Power, with our lives and fortunes to defend Your Majesties Person, Honour, Crown and Dignity, the Religion and Laws established, against all Maligners of Your Majesties Royall Prerogative, and the peace and prosperity of this Kingdom.

Hereunto were annexed the names of four thousand seven hundred seventy and four of the Knights, Gentlemen, and others, of the Counties aforesaid.

At the Court at York, *July* 5th 1642.

His Majestie hath commanded me to give this expresse Answer to this Petition.

THat His Majestie is very well pleased with the Duty and Affection of this Petition, and hath commanded me to signifie His good Acceptance of it, and Thanks for it to the Petitioners, and to assure them, That if some others had had the same sense of, and gratitude for His Justice and favour towards them in the yeelding of His Royall Assent to so many good Bils, as the Petitioners have, and given as good credit to His Professions and Protestations for the defence of the Religion and Laws established, as the Petitioners give, and been as ready to recollect and embrace all good means that might tend to a happy union, and renew a right understanding between His Majestie and His Parliament, as his Majestie hath been, is, and ever shall be; This (by the help of God) had been by this time a

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most secure, united and happy Kingdom, free from all the present Jealousies, Distractions and Dangers. And as His Majestie consents with the Petitioners in a most earnest desire that such a way may be discovered and pursued, which might reconcile all Differences and Mistakings, and by which He might have full satisfaction in His just demands; so He likewise consents with them, that the choice of some place free from exception, both of danger and distrust, would be the most probable, and indeed a certain means to attain that end: which out of His great Affection to Justice and Peace, and His Care of the Freedome (which is the principall priviledge) of Parliament, His Majestie hath often intimated, and of late seriously recommended to both Houses; but not onely without Successe, but without Answer.

His Majestie doth likewise assure the Petitioners, that He will no longer expect that they should make good their Professions of being ready according to their power with their lives and fortunes to defend His Person, Honour, Crown and Dignity, then He shall be ready according to His Power, with His life and fortune, to defend the Religion and Laws established against all Maligners of the Peace and Prosperitie of the Kingdom.

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